

SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

(Action Items Displayed in Italics)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023 — 3:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Fegraus, Vice Chair McCary, and Members Orgill, Clark, Maloney, Osborne, and Horne were present. Members Foley, Connors, Felder, Litschi, and Weiss were absent.

Ev Mena, OC Parks Interim Parks Division Manager and Acting Authority Executive Officer, gave a brief introduction of himself.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

At this time, members of the public may address the Authority on items of public interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Authority and are not contained in today's agenda.

No comments were received from the public.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A)

The following item on the consent calendar will be approved by one motion unless an Authority Member requests to pull a specific item.

A. APPROVE AUTHORITY MINUTES FOR THE MARCH 8, 2023 MEETING.

Motion: Member Orgill

2nd: Member Osborne

Unanimous vote to approve

IV. DISCUSSION CALENDAR (ITEM(S) A–B)

A. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CITY OF LAGUNA BEACH OPEN SPACE PASSIVE ZONING

The City of Laguna Beach is seeking to correct the zoning designation to Open Space Passive for parcels acquired by Proposition 12 funds. The Chair will provide information on this initiative and will take a vote on preparing and issuing a letter to the City Council of Laguna Beach in support of correcting this zoning designation.

Louie F. Lacasella, MPA, City of Laguna Beach Community Development Senior Administrative Analyst, provided details of the proposed zoning change.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Approve the drafting and issuance of a letter by the Chair of the Authority to the City Council of Laguna Beach in support of correcting the zone

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designation to Open Space Passive for parcels of property acquired by Proposition 12 funds.

Motion: Member Maloney

2nd: Member Orgill

Unanimous vote to approve the draft letter and send it to the City of Laguna Beach City Council in support of correcting the zone designations to Open Space Passive for parcels of property acquired by Proposition 12 funds.

B. WOODS END TRAILS TOUR

Attendees will be provided with transportation to each stop of this tour but please be sure to wear appropriate footwear as this tour will involve some walking on unpaved trails.

- **3:30 p.m.:** Meet at Nix Nature Center Parking Lot
Address: 18751 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach, CA 92651
 - Following the business portion of the Authority's meeting, those desiring to attend the Field Trip will congregate in the parking lot to enter transportation to be driven to the subsequent stops of the Field Trip.

Barbara Norton, OC Parks Operations Manager, provided background information at the various tour stops and answered the Authority Members' questions.

- **3:40 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.:**
 - Stop #1 – Wood's End Public Access
 - Brief overview of the land ownership, public trail use and connectivity, and land management responsibilities of the Woods End Trails. All new trails will be highlighted during the tour.

Ownership includes Southern California Edison, County of Orange, Cities of Laguna Beach and Laguna Woods, Laguna Beach County Water District. Review of the Laguna Woods acquisition with California Prop 12 funding which provides an entrance to Laguna Coast Wilderness Park from El Toro Road. In 2002, the California Coastal Conservancy gave a \$2,435,000 grant to the City of Laguna Woods to purchase the 10.6-acre Woods End property.

- Stop #2 – Top of Wood's End Trail at Ridgetop Road

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- Enjoy expansive view from the ridgetop and see various landmarks in Laguna Coast Wilderness Park.

Noted view of Canyon Trail previously named the Bea Whittlesey Canyon Trail. New trails viewed since the Laguna Coast Wilderness Park GDP include Ridge Top and Woods End trails.

- Stop #3 – Top of the Buried Reservoir in the James Dilley Preserve
 - Brief overview of various points of interest visible from this viewpoint.

Noted new trails – Gravel and Edison, Laguna Coast Wilderness Park view and surrounding urban areas, history of Dilley Preserve acquisition by the City of Laguna Beach.

- Stop #4 – Barbara's Lake Shoreline
 - Brief history of the Laguna lakes and the watershed and information on how important these are to local wildlife.

History of Barbara's Lake acquisition and of the namesake Barbara Stuart, noticed high level of water from the winter rains and the lake's importance as a water source for wildlife. Observed proximity of the Laguna Woods community.

- Stop #5 – Old Laguna Canyon Road Alignment
 - Brief history of the realignment of Laguna Canyon Road and the reconnection of Barbara's Lake to Bubbles' Pond. Brief discussion on restoration of old alignment area.

Timeline for old road alignment restoration and possible future use, comment about the water level height at the northern body of water – a vernal pond.

- Conclusion – Nix Nature Center
 - All participants will be transported to the Nix Nature Center for any comments or questions regarding the Field Trip.

Review of the new trails since the Laguna Coast Wilderness Park GDP approval, appreciation to OC Parks staff for the tour and helpful information.

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V. AUTHORITY COMMENTS AND REPORT

At this time Authority Members may comment on agenda or non-agenda matters, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Members may also suggest items for the July 12, 2023 meeting agenda.

No new information about Pilot Trail Use Project; Chair Fegraus noted Supervisor Foley will be at Laguna Coast Wilderness Park July 26 from 9 to 10 a.m. for a short walk, encouraged all to attend. Members agreed to continue outstanding items on the July agenda.

VI. ADJOURNMENT TO JULY 12, 2023

Motion: Member Horne

2nd: Member Maloney

Unanimous vote to adjourn.